

# Arbor Heights' School Communicator

January 23, 2012

Communication for Our Community from "Your Principal"

## Character Education:

### Creating a Framework for Educational Excellence

When schools become the framework for constructing meaning for living and a bridge to understanding the value of a fulfilled life, students become proactive achievers discovering what it means to develop the potential for themselves and the world around them.

Education is one of our most precious resources. As we continue to evaluate our goals here at Arbor Heights, it is important to set forth curriculum standards and reform designs that clearly include character education and anti-bullying education.

### What Is Character Education?

Character education is the development of knowledge, skills, and abilities that enable the learner to make informed and responsible choices. It involves a shared educational commitment that emphasizes the responsibilities and rewards of productive living in a global and diverse society. Character education enables students to come face to face with the realities of life. It encourages them to think critically and then act responsibly. Instructional materials, methods, and strategies, when developed into interdisciplinary curricular themes, empower teachers to create meaning while allowing students time for purposeful exploration and self-reflection. Character development provides a foundation upon which we can build respect for human dignity and create twenty-first-century schools that will empower students to achieve excellence.

If you are interested in the development of a character education program for Arbor Heights, including a framework for a school-wide student conduct handbook, please contact me at [cacollins@seattleschools.org](mailto:cacollins@seattleschools.org), by phone 206-252-0950 or in person!

Tenets for Character Education:

- respect
- caring
- responsibility
- kindness
- good judgment

*"Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education."*

-Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

If you did not receive a phone or email message regarding school changes, please contact the Arbor Heights' school office to check your first contact phone number/email.

Thank you!

**Marty McLaren, Seattle Public Schools  
Board Member**

Visits Arbor Heights for Coffee & Conversation  
**Tuesday, January 24 - 9:00 AM**



## JANUARY

**Jan 23**

~Seattle Public Schools' Board Member, **Marty McLaren** Visits Arbor heights for coffee and conversation 9:00 AM in the library.

**Jan 24**

~**EARLY RELEASE 12:00 PM**

**Jan 26**

~Winter Concert, 1:30pm  
Primary 6:00pm  
Intermediate 7:00pm  
Bake Sale

**Jan 27**

~No School~ Day Between Semesters

## FEBRUARY

**Feb 1**

~Early Dismissal 1:00pm

**Feb 6**

~Monday Morning Monthly Meeting 9:30am

**Feb 7**

~Author Visit **Paul Owen Lewis**  
~PTA Board Meeting 7:00pm

**Feb 16**

~ PTA General Meeting 6:30pm

**Feb 20-24**

~Mid-Winter Break~

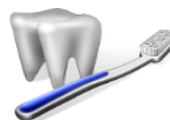
**Feb 29**

~Global Reading Challenge Cafeteria, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade 1:30-2:15pm



### **Principal Coffee!**

Join Ms. Collins for conversation, questions, suggestions and refreshments:  
2-15 \* 3-21 \* 4-25 \* 5-16  
9:00-10:15 AM – Arbor Heights' Library



Dear Families,

Below is information on a new Dental Clinic!

The Center for Pediatric Dentistry provides comprehensive dental care to children, including children with special needs, and children of all ages - even before a tooth can be seen in the mouth. Dental care at the Center for Pediatric Dentistry is directed by our board certified Pediatric Dental Faculty.

Make an appointment: 206-543-5800. Visit our website: <http://www.thecenterforpediatricdentistry.com/>.

Both our Front Desk and Clinic Staff will ask you for information that will help us provide your child with the best dental care possible. We encourage you to ask all the questions you like so we can best meet the needs of your child.

The Center for Pediatric Dentistry is a collaboration of the University of Washington and Seattle Children's and is located at: 6222 NE 74th Street Seattle, 98115.

Dental Health Information for Children with Special Health Care Needs can be found at:

<http://www.dental.washington.edu/departments/oral-medicine/special-needs-fact-sheets.html>

**FURLOUGH ½ Day – January 24**

**Dismissal at 12:00 PM!**

KUODOs to: **Meri Patton**

For writing and receiving a \$17,000 City of Seattle Emergency Preparedness Grant to benefit the students, staff and greater

**Arbor Heights Community!**